

CLAIMS

1. An aircraft wheel assembly including an axle housing means for sensing wheel speed, one end of the axle being covered by a cap member, the cap member comprising a generally cup-like body having an end wall towards the free end of the axle, the cap including means for driving the wheel speed sensing means, the side wall of the body having at least one stiffening deformation.
2. An assembly according to Claim 1, wherein the deformation comprises a rib or fin on the side wall of the cup-like body.
3. An assembly according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein the deformation is shaped to influence the flow of air around the exposed assembly in flight whereby to reduce the level of noise generated.
4. An assembly according to Claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein the deformation extends from the end wall to the open end of the cup-like body and increase in thickness towards the open end.
5. An assembly according to any preceding Claim, wherein the deformation is hollow.
6. An assembly according to any preceding Claim, wherein a plurality of deformations is present and are spaced substantially evenly about the cap.
7. An assembly according to any preceding Claim, wherein the cap tapers outwardly and upwardly away from the end wall thereof.

8. An assembly according to any preceding Claim, wherein the axle protrudes beyond the wheel rim.
9. An assembly according to any preceding Claim, wherein the assembly is a main wheel assembly incorporating tyre pressure sensing means and the cap member includes means for mounting that tyre pressure sensing means.
10. An aircraft incorporating at least one wheel assembly according to any preceding Claim.
11. A hubcap for an aircraft wheel assembly which has an axle housing means for sensing wheel speed and means for sensing tyre pressure, the hub cap comprising a generally cup-like body having an end wall, the body having a flange at its mouth for engagement with clamping means by which the hub cap is fixed on to the free end of the axle, a slot extending from the flange into the side wall of the body to receive components of the tyre pressure sensing means, the inner surface of the end wall having deformations for engagement with the wheel speed sensing means, the body flaring outwardly from the end wall to the flange and hollow ribs being spaced about the exterior of the side wall of the body.